



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

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Morrison Trail Sam's Rocks Expansion Scoping Document

**Bradford Ranger District
Allegheny National Forest**

Warren County, Pennsylvania

Project Information is Available Online at:
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60699>

Introduction

The Allegheny National Forest is proposing to expand Morrison Trail by constructing a new two-mile segment known as Sam's Rocks. This scoping document was prepared to request public feedback on our proposal before a decision is made.

The Morrison Trail System consists of two primary loops. Morrison and Rimrock, that total approximately 12 miles. The trail, which is minimally developed (Class 1), is open to hiking and bicycling. It is considered one of the more popular trails on the Bradford Ranger District, with some users utilizing the Morrison Boat Access Campground for overnight camping. Portions of the trail are quite rugged, while other portions are highly developed (for example, the first mile has been graveled).

Proposed Action

This project proposes to add a new segment to the system that will connect Kinzua Beach to the Morrison Trail System. This proposed two-mile segment, also referred to as Sam's Rocks, will begin at Kinzua Beach, cross the Rimrock Road and connect to the Morrison Trail System via a cross country ski trail.



Installation of the new alignment would be built to Trail Class 3 standards. The trail tread will be 18-36" and the target grade will be 3-10%. The trail construction will involve minimal tree cutting (no trees larger than 6 inches diameter will be cut). The Trail Management Objective for the Rimrock Trail (FR 617) will be updated to include bicycles on the first 250' of the road/trail.

Environmental Review

The next step for this project is to determine whether this proposal will have a significant effect on the environment. This review occurs under the National Environmental Policy Act, and can take the form of a categorical exclusion, environmental assessment, or environmental impact statement. We anticipate using a categorical exclusion, but will consider public comments and determine if extraordinary circumstances are present before making a final decision.

How to Comment

If you would like to provide feedback on this project before a decision is made, we ask that you submit comments no later than October 1, 2021.

- Comments may be sent by mail to Rich Hatfield, District Ranger, Bradford Ranger District, Allegheny National Forest, 29 Forest Service Drive, Bradford, PA 16701.
- Comments may be emailed to comments-eastern-allegheny-bradford@usda.gov. Please enter the project name (*Morrison Trail Sam's Rocks Expansion*) on the subject line, and include your name and physical mailing address as well.
- Comments may be provided by calling 814-363-6000. Normal business hours are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Please note that all comments received, including the names and addresses of those who submit comments, will be part of the public record and are available for public inspection.

For Additional Information

Additional information is available online at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60699>. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Justin Woldt at 814-363-6089 or justin.woldt@usda.gov

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